

REMARKS

Claims 144-159 are presently pending in the application and have been allowed in the March 17, 2009 Advisory Office Action. Claims 1-26 and 192 are being canceled in this response, while claims 27-143 and 160-191 have been previously canceled in a good faith effort to put this application in condition for allowance. Claims 153-159 depend from independent 144 and were previously withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention, but are now being rejoined. The status identifier has been changed in claims 153-159 from "withdrawn" to "original" by virtue of rejoinder of those claims.

According to MPEP 821.04(a), where restriction was required between independent or distinct products, or between independent or distinct processes, and all claims directed to an elected invention are allowable, any restriction requirement between the elected invention and any nonelected invention that depends from or otherwise requires all the limitations of an allowable claim should be withdrawn. A requirement for restriction should be withdrawn when a generic claim, linking claim, or subcombination claim is allowable and any previously withdrawn claim depends from or otherwise requires all the limitations thereof. Claims that require all the limitations of an allowable claim will be rejoined in the application.

In this case, the March 17, 2009 Advisory Office Action identified independent claim 144, and all claims dependent thereon

(claims 145-159), as being allowed, including previously withdrawn claims 153-159. Because previously withdrawn claims 153-159 depend from independent claim 144, or a claim depending from independent claim 144, those claims include all of the limitations of allowed claim 144. For that reason, claims 153-159 should be rejoined in this application and should be allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, applicant believes that claims 144-159 are all allowable and the same is respectfully requested. If any impediment to the allowance of these claims remains after entry of this Amendment, and such impediment could be alleviated during a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to initiate the same. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-0836.

DATED this 17th day of April, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,



Karl R. Cannon
Attorney Registration No. 36,468
Attorney for Applicant

Clayton, Howarth & Cannon, P.C.
P.O. Box 1909
Sandy, UT 84091
Telephone: (801) 255-5335
Facsimile: (801) 255-5338

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